

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 13, 2004

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rolling Hills Estates was called to order at 7:53 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 4045 Palos Verdes Drive North, by MAYOR MITCHELL.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR MITCHELL led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

City Council Members Present: Addleman, Mitchell, Seamans, Zerunyan, Zuckerman

City Staff Present: City Manager Doug Prichard

Assistant City Manager Sam Wise

City Attorney Richard Terzian

Community Services Director Andy Clark

Administrative Analyst Greg Grammer

Equestrian Services Supervisor Linda Fitton

Traffic Engineer Erik Zandvliet

Others Present: Richard Somers, Planning Commission

David Pierson, Park and Activities Commission

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

NONE

ROUTINE MATTERS

A. CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2004

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN moved, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS
TO APPROVE THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2004 AS
PRESENTED.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, MAYOR MITCHELL SO ORDERED.

B. JOINT CITY COUNCIL/HOA PRESIDENTS MINUTES OF MARCH 29, 2004

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN moved, seconded by COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN

TO APPROVE THE JOINT CITY COUNCIL/HOA PRESIDENTS MINUTES OF MARCH 29, 2004 AS PRESENTED.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, MAYOR MITCHELL SO ORDERED.

C. DEMANDS AND WARRANTS – MONTHS OF MARCH AND APRIL

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN moved, seconded by COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN

TO APPROVE WARRANTS 35257 THROUGH 35324 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$194,780.53; SUPPLEMENTAL WARRANTS 030401 030402; 35107 THROUGH 35112; 35160 THROUGH 35174; 35237 THROUGH 35245 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$196,641.19 FOR A GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$391,421.72 WITH PROPER AUDIT.

AYES: Addleman, Mitchell, Seamans, Zerunyan, Zuckerman

CONSENT CALENDAR

COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS moved, seconded by MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN

TO APPROVE ITEMS A-D.

A. READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions presented for consideration to the City Council will be waived and all such ordinances and resolutions will be read by title only.

RECEIVED AND FILED.

B. LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PRIORITY FOCUS DATED MARCH 19 2004

RECEIVED AND FILED.

C. LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PRIORITY FOCUS DATED MARCH 26, 2004

RECEIVED AND FILED.

D. LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PRIORITY FOCUS DATED APRIL 2, 2004

RECEIVED AND FILED.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, MAYOR MITCHELL SO ORDERED.

AUDIENCE ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA/WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Joan Davidson, Palos Verdes Estates, once again thanked the COUNCIL on their vigilance regarding the proposed South Coast Golf Course. She distributed information to the COUNCIL on research she had done from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. She noted they had sent a letter clarifying that the golf course had not yet been approved as opposed to rumors she had heard.

- B. Melody Colbert, 4604 Rockbluff, spoke regarding the water supply for the proposed golf

course as California Water is proposing a project on Palos Verdes Drive North and was concerned about the regional demand as she believed they would not have the ability to provide enough water to the proposed golf course, as well as who will pay the additional cost.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS

A. ROLLINGWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD SPEED HUMPS

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the installation of speed humps on the following street segments: 1) Install two speed humps on Kingspine Road between Dunwood Road and Willow Wood Road as indicated on the attached map; 2) Install two speed humps on Dunwood Road between Bluemound Road and Kingspine Road as indicated on the map; and 3) Install two speed humps on Willow Wood Road between Dunwood Road and Bluemound Road as indicated on the map.

Assistant City Manager Wise provided a staff report (as per agenda material).

MAYOR MITCHELL asked the audience for a show of hands in support of the proposed speed humps. It was noted the majority was in favor of this project.

Without objection, MAYOR MITCHELL opened the public meeting.

Bernie Van Wie, 4835 Elmdale, noted his opposition to the speed humps as his street, along with Rollingwood Road, would be impacted. He believed it would not be good City policy to impose this problem on other streets. He also noted there might be other alternatives to pursue.

Richard Gajeuski, Elmdale, believed that the definition of the impacted area is faulty. He noted that Elmdale would be affected and also believed that there were other ways of controlling these streets instead of utilizing speed humps. Additionally, he noted that speed is not a problem on his particular street.

Nancy Canterano, 8 Silver Eagle, commented that she did not receive a survey and did not understand the reasoning for placement of the speed humps. She noted that this needs to be taken into consideration as her street was not involved in the process.

Joan Lightfoot, 5108 Kingspine, noted she already has a stop sign in front of her home and opposed installing another sign in the same location. She noted her preference for the speed humps, but no additional signage.

Tom Judge, 28 Rollingwood, responded to various questions raised. He noted that Elmdale and Rollingwood would not be affected. Additionally, he indicated that other traffic calming measures have been utilized to no avail. He then provided a brief history of how this project came about and urged the COUNCIL to approve the recommendation.

David Breeding, 5159 Bluemound, President, Rollingwood Homeowners' Association, noted he was authorized by their board to urge the City to consider traffic calming in the Rollingwood area where all residents could voice their opinions. He noted that factual data has been taken regarding this problem along with a survey stating that, while many alternatives have been considered, speed humps seem to be the most practical solution.

Melody Colbert, commented that she does not live on the affected streets, but did speak to many residents in regards to the speed problem. She believed the humps to be a minor inconvenience as it is important for the residents to enjoy their neighborhood.

Sibylle Roessler, 5167 Bluemound, Board Member, Rollingwood Homeowners' Association, stated she was not involved in the speed hump study, but that this project would involve only two locations. She then referred to an article in the L.A. Times on this issue.

Jerry Gliksman, 87 Dapplegray, President, Dapplegray Lane Homeowners' Association, explained that his association did install speed humps and has been very pleased with the end result.

Without objection, MAYOR MITCHELL closed the public meeting.

COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS inquired as to why the speed humps on Kingspine seem to be too close. Traffic Engineer Zandvliet noted that the steeper slope affected the location of the proposed humps. Additionally, he noted that the aforementioned "stop sign" will be replaced by a speed hump sign.

COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN commented that he believed this to be a public safety issue. He concurred with Mr. Gliksman's comments as he has a speed hump in front of his driveway and that it did not pose a significant impact on him.

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN noted that a budget adjustment is not necessary at this time.

COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN moved, seconded by MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN

TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS ON THE FOLLOWING STREET SEGMENTS: 1) INSTALL TWO SPEED HUMPS ON KINGSPINE ROAD BETWEEN DUNWOOD ROAD AND WILLOW WOOD ROAD AS INDICATED; 2) INSTALL TWO SPEED HUMPS ON DUNWOOD ROAD BETWEEN BLUEMOUND ROAD AND KINGSPINE ROAD AS INDICATED; AND 3) INSTALL TWO SPEED HUMPS ON WILLOW WOOD ROAD BETWEEN DUNWOOD ROAD AND BLUEMOUND ROAD AS INDICATED.

AYES: Addleman, Mitchell, Seamans, Zerunyan, Zuckerman*

*COUNCILMAN ZUCKERMAN noted for the record that this is an example of how the will of the people can work together and accomplish their goal of having these speed humps installed. Additionally, he stated that generally it is his intention to support homeowners' associations, the Traffic and Safety Committee, and staff, as well as having the opponents participate in this process.

NEW BUSINESS

A. PARK AND ACTIVITIES MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2004

COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS moved, seconded by MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN

TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE PARK AND ACTIVITIES COMMISSION MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2004.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, MAYOR MITCHELL SO ORDERED.

1. PARK AND ACTIVITIES COMMISSION ACTION ITEM FROM THE APRIL 6, 2004 MEETING – FEE INCREASES FOR TENNIS CLUB

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the fee increases for the Rolling Hills Estates Tennis Club for Fiscal Year 2004-05.

Community Services Director Clark provided a staff report (as per agenda material).

COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN inquired as to how often the Tennis Club is utilized as far as during the week, holidays, etc. Community Services Director Clark responded that it is heavily used weekday mornings (due to league play), on holidays when the weather is warm, but tends to be slow on weekday middays as well as the winter months.

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN noted that the proposed general membership fee is a 16% increase and believed it to be sufficient.

Extensive discussion ensued regarding the appropriate rate increase should be while still remaining competitive with other clubs in the area.

It was noted that there are 181 single and family memberships.

COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN strongly suggested addressing the deficit as this becomes an operational issue.

Discussion continued with COUNCILMAN ZUCKERMAN inquiring if it is fair that the non-playing residents subsidize tennis players. He then inquired if the City should raise the fees to erase the deficit or gradually increase them over time and review this matter the following year.

COUNCILMAN ZERUYAN concurred with the aforementioned comments so that the increase is not seen immediately, but rather eliminate the \$11,000 deficit over a period of years.

Community Services Director Clark noted that one of the reasons for the deficit occurred in 2000-01 when the minimum wage was increased.

Discussion continued regarding the fee increase for resident versus non-resident and making it advantageous for resident members.

It was the consensus of the COUNCIL

TO DIRECT STAFF TO BRING BACK ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

B. REQUEST FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY'S PARK EQUESTRIAN FACILITIES

Recommendation: That the City Council uphold the Park and Activities Commission's action to deny the request to construct vertical poles and enclosed hitching areas within the City's park equestrian facilities.

Community Services Director Clark provided a staff report (as per agenda material).

COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN inquired as to why installing a fence enclosure would be problematic. Community Services Director Clark indicated that this type of structure would not properly hold a horse and may distract horses in the ring due to its location.

Discussion ensued regarding enclosures that may cause unsafe horse behavior. Community

Services Director Clark noted that the existing tie rails have been working very well.

Equestrian Services Supervisor Fitton noted that the horizontal posts are standard. She noted some reasons for the occasional loose horse is generally due to rider irresponsibility, i.e. gates inadvertently being left open at riding rings, tying horses to posts left unattended, etc. Additionally, she emphasized that it is up to the rider to ensure horses are contained for their own safety.

Cheryl Steckel, 3 Strawberry, distributed additional signatures to the COUNCIL in support of her request. She countered that riders do not have a safe place to tie their horses head-up. She stated firmly that the proposed structures and tie posts are acceptable in the equestrian community.

After lengthy discussion, COUNCILMAN ZUCKERMAN moved, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS, to

DIRECT STAFF TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE LOCATIONS FOR TIE POLES WITHOUT REMOVING THE EXISTING TIE RAILS AND WITHOUT INTERFERING WITH SAFE PASSAGE ON THE TRAILS; AND DENY THE REQUEST TO CREATE ENCLOSURES ADJACENT TO THE RINGS.

AYES: Addleman, Mitchell, Seamans, Zerunyan, Zuckerman

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

NONE

CITY COUNCIL/REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS: This item provides the opportunity for Members of the City Council to provide information and reports to other Members of the City Council and/or the public on any issues or activities of currently active Council Committees, ad hoc committees, regional or state-wide governmental associations, special districts and/or joint powers authorities and their various committees on which Members of the City Council might serve or have an interest, which are not otherwise agendized.

A. MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN

1. TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MARCH 30, 2004

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN moved, seconded by COUNCILMAN ZUCKERMAN

TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MARCH 30, 2004.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, MAYOR MITCHELL SO ORDERED.

a. ACTION ITEMS FROM THE TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 30, 2004

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the mailing of a survey to all residences on

Buckskin Lane similar to the survey in the Traffic and Safety Committee Agenda Packet to assess their interest in the installation of a total of two (2) speed humps; one between No. 5 and No. 7 Buckskin Lane and one between No. 28 and No. 34 Buckskin Lane.

Assistant City Manager Wise provided a staff report (as per agenda material).

MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN moved, seconded by COUCILMAN ZUCKERMAN

TO APPROVE THE MAILING OF A SURVEY TO ALL RESIDENCES ON BUCKSKIN LANE SIMILAR TO THE SURVEY IN THE TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE AGENDA PACKET TO ASSESS THEIR INTEREST IN THE INSTALLATION OF A TOTAL OF TWO (2) SPEED HUMPS; ONE BETWEEN NO. 5 AND NO. 7 BUCKSKIN LANE AND ONE BETWEEN NO. 28 AND NO. 34 BUCKSKIN LANE.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, MAYOR MITCHELL SO ORDERED.

1. CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF A MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1) Authorize staff to collaborate with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes on a Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; 2) Direct staff to enter into the professional services agreement with Emergency Planning Consultants (EPC) in an amount not to exceed \$8,000; and 3) Appoint two members each from the Planning Commission and Park and Activities Commission to serve on the Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee.

Administrative Analyst Grammer provided a staff report (as per agenda material).

COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS moved, seconded by MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN

TO: 1) Authorize staff to collaborate with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes on a Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; 2) Direct staff to enter into the professional services agreement with Emergency Planning Consultants (EPC) in an amount not to exceed \$8,000; AND 3) Appoint two members each from the Planning Commission and Park and Activities Commission to serve on the Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee.

AYES: Addleman, Seamans, Mitchell, Zerunyan, Zuckerman

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS: This item provides the opportunity for Members of the City Council to request information on currently pending projects and/or issues of public concern, direct that an item be agendized for future consideration and/or make announcements of interest to the public.

A. COUNCILMAN ZUCKERMAN reported on the Vector Control meeting where he noted that information is available to the public regarding an equine dermatitis outbreak and treatment options.

At 10:50 p.m., the CITY COUNCIL convened into closed session. At 11:00 p.m., the CITY COUNCIL reconvened into open session with MAYOR MITCHELL, MAYOR PRO TEM ADDLEMAN, COUNCILWOMAN SEAMANS, COUNCILMAN ZERUNYAN and COUNCILMAN ZUCKERMAN present.

CLOSED SESSION

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – THREATENED LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(11), there is a significant exposure to litigation based upon a written communication from a potential plaintiff threatening litigation.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:00 p.m., MAYOR MITCHELL formally adjourned the City Council meeting to Tuesday, April 27, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting Park and Activities Commission interviews.

Submitted by, Approved by,

Hope J. Nolan Douglas R. Prichard

Deputy City Clerk City Clerk